

JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE

Activity: Heritage Partnership Programs
Subactivity: Heritage Technical Assistance

Program Components	1999 Estimate	Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	2000 Budget Request	Change From 1999 (+/-)
Heritage Technical Assistance	859	27	0	886	+27
Total Requirements \$(000)	859	27	0	886	+27

AUTHORIZATION

Public Law 104-333	Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996
16 U.S.C. 1271 - 1287	Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as amended
16 U.S.C. 1241 - 1249	National Trails System Act, as amended
16 U.S.C. 4601 - 4601-3	Outdoor Recreation Organic Act
16 U.S.C. 1a-5	National Park Service Organic Act, as amended
16 U.S.C. 1273	Historic Sites Act of 1935
16 U.S.C. 470-470m	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended

OVERVIEW

Heritage Partnership Programs (National Heritage Areas) are designated by Congress to conserve and promote natural, historic, scenic, and cultural resources associated with the history of a geographic area, and are managed by private or State entities with assistance from the National Park Service.

APPLICABLE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MISSION GOALS

- Ia Natural and cultural resources and associated values are protected, restored and maintained in good condition and managed within their broader ecosystem and cultural context.
- IIa Visitors safely enjoy and are satisfied with the availability, accessibility, diversity, and quality of park facilities, services, and appropriate recreational opportunities.
- IIb Park visitors and the general public understand and appreciate the preservation of parks and their resources for this and future generations.
- IIIa Natural and cultural resources are conserved through formal partnership programs.
- IIIb Through partnerships with State and local agencies and nonprofit organizations, a nationwide system of parks, open space, rivers, and trails provides educational, recreational, and conservation benefits for the American people.
- IIIc Assisted through Federal funds and programs, the protection of recreational opportunities is achieved through formal mechanisms to ensure continued access for public recreation use.

National Recreation and Preservation/Heritage Partnership Programs

Heritage Technical Assistance FY 1999 Estimated Program and Anticipated Accomplishments

Enacted: \$859,000

This subactivity provides technical support to the heritage areas created by the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act, signed November 12, 1996: Augusta Canal National Heritage Area, Georgia; National Coal Heritage Area, West Virginia; Essex National Heritage Area, Massachusetts; Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, New York; Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor, Ohio; Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District, Virginia; South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, South Carolina; Steel Industry American Heritage Area, Pennsylvania; Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area, Tennessee.

The National Park Service provides technical expertise and training to the nine national heritage areas created in the Omnibus Parks Bill enacted in 1996. Fiscal year 1999 support will include assistance with the management plans each area is required to complete. The management plans formalize the vision that each area has developed among its citizens, organizations, and governmental agencies to shape their future quality of life. These plans are also necessary to forge the partnerships between the entities and the National Park Service. These plans will address the conservation of natural and cultural resources, and preserving habitat for wildlife, limiting sprawl, connecting neighborhoods with walking and biking trails, and bringing alive their history with renewed attention to their existing resources. Assistance will be provided in interpretive planning, which includes the special challenge of regional interpretation -- making a story coherent and engaging as the resident or visitor travels from site to site, or walks or rides along a trail -- making a long and large story meaningful to a visitor as a whole experience involving the intellect as well as the imagination as well as the emotions, using all of the senses, and engaging the visitor in healthy exercise. Assistance will also include historic preservation, river restoration, and community involvement and additional expertise to support perpetuating the distinctive character of America's working environments. The funds provided for this activity will provide for staff costs, travel and support costs to cover technical assistance and administration.

Performance Goals

Long-term Goal IIIb2	By September 30, 2002, 80% of communities served are satisfied with NPS partnership assistance in providing recreational and conservation benefits on lands and waters.
Annual Goal IIIb2	By September 30, 2000, 77% of communities served are satisfied with NPS partnership assistance in providing recreational and conservation benefits on lands and waters.

Heritage Technical Assistance Performance Information	FY 1998 Estimate	FY 1999 Estimate	FY 2000 Estimate
Percentage of States, communities and nonprofit organizations served are satisfied with heritage assistance. *	Establish baseline	75%	77%
* The methodology and survey instrument for determining satisfaction of communities served were developed in FY 1998 and are being reviewed by OMB; results of the first round of surveys should be available by March 1999.			

National Recreation and Preservation/Heritage Partnership Programs

JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE

Activity: Heritage Partnership Programs
Subactivity: Commissions and Grants

Program Components	1999 Estimate	Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	2000 Budget Request	Change From 1999 (+/-)
Commissions and Grants	5,000	0	+250	5,250	+250
Total Requirements \$(000)	5,000	0	+250	5,250	+250

AUTHORIZATION

Public Law 104-333

Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996

OVERVIEW

Heritage Partnership Programs (National Heritage Areas) have been created by Congress to promote the conservation of natural, historic, scenic, and cultural resources. The areas are managed by private nonprofit groups, or by States, not by the National Park Service. Control of the area continues to rest with local government. Participating areas realize significant benefits from this partnership strategy, including resource conservation and community attention to quality of life issues supported by developing sustainable economies.

APPLICABLE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MISSION GOALS

- Ia Natural and cultural resources and associated values are protected, restored and maintained in good condition and managed within their broader ecosystem and cultural context.
- IIa Visitors safely enjoy and are satisfied with the availability, accessibility, diversity, and quality of park facilities, services, and appropriate recreational opportunities.
- IIb Park visitors and the general public understand and appreciate the preservation of parks and their resources for this and future generations.
- IIIa Natural and cultural resources are conserved through formal partnership programs.
- IIIb Through partnerships with State and local agencies and nonprofit organizations, a nationwide system of parks, open space, rivers, and trails provides educational, recreational, and conservation benefits for the American people.
- IIIc Assisted through Federal funds and programs, the protection of recreational opportunities is achieved through formal mechanisms to ensure continued access for public recreation use.

Commissions and Grants

FY 1999 Estimated Program and Anticipated Accomplishments

Enacted: \$5,000,000

In FY 1999, two national heritage areas received \$500,000 each for grants and commissions: Augusta Canal and South Carolina; and three national heritage areas received the maximum \$1.0 million each, including Essex National Heritage Area in Massachusetts, Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor in Ohio, and Steel Industry American Heritage Area in Pennsylvania. The remaining \$1.0 million that was appropriated for this activity, will be allocated among

National Recreation and Preservation/Heritage Partnership Programs

National Coal Heritage Area in West Virginia, Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area in New York, Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District in Virginia, and Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area.

Performance goals and achievements for these sites will be measured in acres preserved, and acres will be considered preserved when management plans are approved. No management plans have been approved as yet, so the baseline is zero. Plans for the nine national heritage areas follows.

(1) Augusta Canal National Heritage Area, Georgia, will focus on their management plan, interpretive planning, curation issues and site work on the Headgates area and Chafee Park. A temporary visitor center is near completion; a bike trail and pedestrian bridge will soon be constructed and a replica Petersburg boat will be built to take visitors on interpretive tours of the Canal.

(2) National Coal Heritage Area, West Virginia, will continue to forge a working team of partners and a base of community information and involvement. Work will continue on feasibility studies and resource assessments, working toward the development of a management plan.

(3) Essex National Heritage Area, Massachusetts, will continue work on a management plan, and continue planning for an interpretive program with a focus on programs at the visitor centers.

(4) Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, New York, will develop a management plan incorporating existing information and documents, and an interpretive plan, including coordinated signage throughout the area. Preservation of two critical resources will be pursued: the Dutch Reformed Church in Newburgh, and Wilderstein in Rhinebeck.

(5) Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor, Ohio, will continue the public involvement necessary for completing its required management plan. The management entity will also continue its grants program that supports reconstructing the canal tow path, and related developments including a canoe livery, restaurant in a restored turn of the century farm building on the National Register of Historic Places, and office and retail space. Eventually, there will be a 90-mile trail, with support facilities, stretching from Cleveland in northern Ohio to Zoar.

(6) South Carolina National Heritage Corridor is focusing on interpretive issues associated with their history of rice plantations and the early development of industry. The overall heritage plan for the corridor will be completed by November, 1999. In Region I the interpretive plan will be completed and the exhibits for the Discovery Center will be designed and fabricated. Other projects include evaluations for African American Heritage Sites and development/installation of directional and interpretive signage for the two main byways which are identified within the corridor.

(7) Steel Industry American Heritage Area, Pennsylvania, will complete a management plan with the completion of an environmental assessment. Implementation in FY 1999 will focus on development of landings at important sites along the river which will support the private development of boat tours connecting the sites that tell the story of Big Steel in Pittsburgh.

(8) Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area, Tennessee, has legislation different from the other areas: a compact is required before designation as a heritage area, and before the Service can disperse funding under this subactivity. The first step will be to work with a group of partners in the State to develop the compact. When the compact is approved and a cooperative agreement signed with the Park Service, project planning will begin.

(9) Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District, Virginia has established its commission, and will continue with its resource assessment and planning for development.

National Recreation and Preservation/Heritage Partnership Programs**Performance Goals**

Long-term Goal IIIb2	By September 30, 2002, 80% of communities served are satisfied with NPS partnership assistance in providing recreational and conservation benefits on lands and waters.
Annual Goal IIIb2	By September 30, 2000, 77% of communities served are satisfied with NPS partnership assistance in providing recreational and conservation benefits on lands and waters.

Grants and Commissions Performance Information	FY 1998 Estimate	FY 1999 Estimate	FY 2000 Estimate
Acres of park plus open space protected through heritage grants.	0	500	500
Percentage of communities served are satisfied with NPS heritage assistance.	Establish baseline	75%	77%
* The methodology and survey instrument for determining satisfaction of communities served were developed in FY 1998 and are being reviewed by OMB; results of the first round of surveys should be available by March 1999.			

JUSTIFICATION OF FY 2000 BUDGET REQUEST FOR HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

	2000 Budget Request	Program Changes (+/-)
Heritage Partnership Programs \$(000)	6,136	+250

The FY 2000 request for Heritage Partnership Programs is \$6.136 million, which represents an increase of \$0.277 million above the FY 1999 enacted level. The programmatic increase of \$0.250 million for the Heritage Partnership Programs activity is justified by the proposed change that follows:

▪ **Commissions and Grants (+\$250,000):** The NPS is proposing an increase of \$250,000 in FY 2000 for grants to national heritage areas. The requested \$250,000 for Commissions and Grants for national heritage areas would be divided among those heritage areas identified in the 1996 Omnibus Parks Act that are most ready to spend additional grant funds. Most of the funds would be distributed among the four areas which, in FY 1999, shared \$1.0 million: National Coal Heritage Area, Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District, and Tennessee Civil War Heritage Area. Of these four areas, Hudson River has completed its studies and most of its planning, and would receive a portion of the \$250,000 increase. Hudson River would be able to complete additional restoration of two historic structures identified as important to their story: Wilderstein in Rhinebeck, and the Dutch Reformed Church in Newburgh. Shenandoah as well should be well through their planning process and ready to receive an increase. Coal is continuing to develop its management structure and develop its community support. Tennessee cannot begin its management plan until after its compact has been approved; Tennessee is continuing to develop their compact.

Three areas received their maximum funding in FY 1999 and will continue to receive \$1.0 million (Essex National Heritage Area, Ohio and Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor, and Steel Industry American Heritage Area). Two areas in FY 1999 received earmarks for \$500,000: Augusta Canal, and South Carolina. While these two are not yet at their authorized maximum of \$1.0 million, some of the areas still at \$250,000 are in more critical need of an increase to their grant.